

participated in the India Day Parade in New York City, New York for five years. BSOU continues its mission to honor and celebrate the Brahmin history and culture.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Brahmin Samaj of USA as it celebrates its 25th Anniversary. Its commitment to promoting the Brahmin culture and serving the Indian community is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

HAZLETON LIONS CLUB

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Hazleton Lions Club which is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year.

Since 1917, Lions Clubs have offered people the opportunity to give something back to their communities. On October 23, 1923, the Hazleton Lions Club was formed by its Charter President Roy D. Snyder, making it the 20th oldest Lions Club in Pennsylvania. Since its founding, the Hazleton Lions Club has been extremely active within the community, completing numerous projects and making donations in support of many other organizations. These volunteer service projects include the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Project, Red Cross Disaster Response Team, Nescopeck State Park Project, Can-Do Board of Directors, Greater Hazleton Area Fun Fest and the American Cancer Society. Recipients of the club's donations range from national organizations such as the United Rehabilitation Services and Catholic Social Services, to local groups such as Hazleton Little League and the Hazleton Integration Project. The members of this club continue to find ways to give back and improve their community.

Mr. Speaker, for 90 years the Hazleton Lions Club has been a vital asset to the city of Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Therefore, I commend all those who have served to improve their community as part of this important organization.

RECOGNIZING MR. EUGENIO "GENE" GARZA JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Eugenio "Gene" Garza Jr. for his retirement from his position as the Director of Field Operations with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in Laredo, Texas. Mr. Garza has dedicated his service in protecting our nation's borders and its communities.

As Director for Field Operations for the Laredo Field Office since January 2011, Mr. Garza has lead the agency, providing oversight and guidance to the operation of eight ports of entry extending from Brownsville to Del Rio, including 23 crossings, 6 airports, and one seaport and overseeing more than 2,600 employees and imports exceeding \$134 billion annually processed through South Texas.

Previously, Mr. Garza was the Port Director of the Laredo Port of Entry, first with the U.S.

Customs Service and then with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. As Port Director, Mr. Garza oversaw the largest inland port in the U.S., managing more than 800 employees, four international bridges, one airport and a railroad bridge, with an annual budget of \$12 million dollars and with employees in Laredo, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Roma, Hidalgo/Pharr and Brownsville/Los Indios.

Mr. Garza started his federal career in 1971 with the U.S. Air Force as a Military Policeman, at which time he was introduced to the U.S. Customs Service, Customs Narcotics Detector Dog Training Center at Lackland Air Base in San Antonio, Texas. In 1976, Mr. Garza began his civilian career as a Canine Enforcement Officer with the then U.S. Customs Service at the Port of Laredo. Today, the CBP Canine Program is the largest and most diverse law enforcement canine program in the country.

Mr. Garza has held numerous supervisory positions at the district and headquarters level since his initial appointment, serving an assignment in the Port of Eagle Pass, Canine Enforcement Branch Chief and Chief in Laredo and Acting National Canine Program Director, prior to being selected as the Port Director in Laredo. Under his leadership, the Port of Laredo has earned a number of Commissioner Unit Citations for outstanding performance by the Laredo passenger, trade and outbound, and enforcement teams.

During the course of his career, Mr. Garza has been widely recognized as an expert in international border security management issues and border trade and recognized by CBP, the trade industry and the Vice President of the United States for his expertise. Under Mr. Garza's leadership, the Port of Laredo has undergone significant facilities enhancements, including lane expansions at the Lincoln-Juarez Bridge and the World Trade Bridge. These projects significantly facilitated processing of passenger and commercial traffic and a boost to economic benefits.

In 2007, Mr. Garza was recognized by Texas A&M International University and the Smithsonian Institute as a Distinguished Alumnus in the Smithsonian Institution's Portraits of Latino Achievement. In 2011, Mr. Garza was recognized as a 2010 Tejano Achiever by LULAC Council 12. In that same year, Mr. Garza was selected to the Senior Executive Service in Laredo. Mr. Garza is an active participant in numerous civic organizations and community activist.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and privileged to have the opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Garza for his outstanding service in protecting our communities and his extraordinary commitment to our country. He has truly contributed to this nation in his efforts to protect our borders.

THE NEED TO REVITALIZE AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the efforts to revitalize American Manufacturing.

Manufacturing has long been a central part of the American economy. Right now, there are more than 11 million Americans employed in high-paying manufacturing jobs. And in 2010, manufacturing accounted for 60 percent of all U.S. exports and contributed \$1.7 trillion to our GDP.

These figures are impressive and lend support for the importance of maintaining a vibrant manufacturing sector. Unfortunately, the dominance of the United States in manufacturing has been steadily challenged. The U.S. share of global manufacturing value added declined from one-third in the early 1980s to just one-fifth today. At the same time, manufacturing activity has rapidly increased in emerging economies such as China and Korea.

Even more troubling, is the fact that countries such as Korea, Japan, and Germany have a more R&D-intensive manufacturing sector than the United States. Additionally, each of these countries has a positive trade balance in advanced manufacturing products unlike the \$81 billion dollar trade deficit observed in the United States in 2010.

The truth is that the perception of manufacturing as low-skilled, assembly line work is outdated and no longer applies. The future of manufacturing is advanced manufacturing, a high-tech endeavor that uses sensors, robotics, and cutting-edge modeling and simulation. If we do nothing and settle for the status quo, our position will almost certainly decline further and our economy will continue to struggle.

Thankfully, the Administration has renewed its commitment to American manufacturing and is focused on ensuring that the United States is the global leader in advanced manufacturing. The President has put forward a number of initiatives, including the creation of the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation. The purpose of the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation is to establish up to 15 public-private manufacturing institutes across the country. These institutes will serve as centers of manufacturing excellence and will accelerate manufacturing and help transition cutting-edge technologies from the lab to the factory floor.

The Administration has also called for a number of tax reforms that will provide incentives to companies that bring jobs back to the U.S. These include making the R and D tax credit permanent, reducing tax rates for manufacturers, and doubling the tax deduction for high-tech manufacturers.

The President's commitment to advanced manufacturing appears to be paying off. We are adding manufacturing jobs for the first time since the 1990s. These jobs will have a downstream impact on our economy since it's been shown that for every manufacturing job we create, we add five additional jobs along the supply chain. And for every dollar in manufacturing value added, we create \$1.40 in new value in other sectors of the economy.

We need to continue to move forward with policies and programs that will expand and support the development of advanced manufacturing. I have worked on two such efforts.

First, my bill, H.R. 1421, the AIM Act makes strategic investments in advanced manufacturing research, development, and education. It brings the public and private sectors together to tackle the research needs of industry. It provides small and medium-sized manufacturers with innovation vouchers that will allow them to make their companies and products more competitive. And finally, H.R. 1421